

Marxism 2009 Program

Thursday 9th April - 6:30pm

Public meeting: Challenging capitalism and war: featuring a left wing activist from Egypt **Mamdouh Habashi**, American socialist and author of a new book on the Vietnam War **Joe Allen** and Socialist Alternative National Executive member **Sandra Bloodworth**.

Friday 10th April

10am • *Marxist foundations:* The Russian revolution: The real story
 • Sri Lanka: Where Trotskyism became a mass movement
 • Trading in pollution: Environmental destruction & the fallacy of market solutions

11:30 am • Bubble to Bust: The Global Economy Today with Deutscher prize winning author **Rick Kuhn**
 • *Marxist foundations:* Do revolutions always end in dictatorships?
 • Australia and the “Good War”: Opposition and Resistance during WW2 with **Tom O’Lincoln** author of a new book on the period
 • Does the “Russia question” still matter for the left? with Socialist Alternative magazine editor **Corey Oakley**

2pm • **Q and A** with renowned investigative reporter and documentary filmmaker **John Pilger**
 • Standing up to imperialism and war: an eye witness account from Lebanon with socialist activist **Bassem Chit**

4pm • What does the Obama presidency mean for world politics with American socialist **Joe Allen**
 • The Northern Territory intervention: the latest racist land grab with NT Aboriginal activist **Barbara Shaw** one of the leaders of the Intervention Rollback Action Group and Socialist Alternative's **Diane Fieldes**

• A history of Anarchism – a Marxist critique by **Colleen Bolger**

7pm • Debate on way forward for the union movement with **Tom Bramble** author of a new book on the history of the Australian union movement
 • Fighting back against capitalist crisis: a first hand report on worker and student resistance in Greece with Greek activist **Thanasis Kourkoulas**
 • *Marxist foundations:* What is the revolutionary attitude to violence and non-violence?

Later • Red Shelley: a recital by **Luke Wilson** of the revolutionary poetry of Percy Bysshe Shelley

Saturday 11th April

10am • *Marxist foundations:* Is human nature a barrier to radical change?
 • Are Western workers a labour aristocracy?
 • When the Diggers took on the Scabs – Retaking the Waterfront in 1919 with radical historian **Robert Bollard**

11:30 am • *Marxist foundations:* Socialist Alternative: Who are we? What do we stand for?
 • What the world economic crisis means for socialists with Socialist Alternative National Executive member **Diane Fieldes**
 • Comrades Come Rally: the formation of the Australian Communist Party

2pm • Imperialism and the struggle for a free Palestine with **Palestinian socialist**, guest speakers from the Middle East and Socialist Alternative's **Mick Armstrong**
 • Panel on Gay Liberation Movement with **Liz Ross**, **Daniel Marshall** and another special guest
 • Animal Farm and 1984: Was Orwell anti-socialist?

4pm • *Marxist foundations:* Why do we need a socialist organisation?
 • The origins of Bolshevism in Russia: a new

interpretation with Sandra Bloodworth
 • The Marxist theory of sexism, oppression and class
 • Why does capitalism go into crisis?

7pm • The socialist answer to capitalist crisis with a range of international speakers and **Vashti Kenway** from Socialist Alternative

9pm • Film Screening of the anti-war film *Taliban Country*
 • Radical history tour of Melbourne University conducted by **Mick Armstrong**

Sunday 12th April

10am • *Marxist foundations:* Why a class analysis matters to changing the world
 • As the miracle economy falters: a special guest from **Hong Kong** reports on the emerging workers movement in China
 • The red in the rainbow – the struggle for sexual liberation with Socialist Alternative National Executive member **Louise O'Shea**

11:30 am • *Marxist foundations:* The capitalist state: what it is and how to challenge it
 • Understanding exploitation – the labour theory of value
 • A report on working class resistance in the Middle East by **Mamdouh Habashi** from Egypt

2pm • The ABC of Marxist Economics
 • Does the Marxist theory of imperialism need updating?
 • More than a year of hard Labor: Rudd and Australian politics today with **Rebecca Barrigos**

4pm • Lenin's What is to be done – a re-interpretation by **Mick Armstrong**
 • Why changing the world means taking power
 • *Marxist foundations:* Sexism and 21st century capitalism: Why are women still oppressed?